

SECHELT SENIORS ACTIVITY CENTRE
5604 TRAIL AVENUE SECHELT, BC
Annual General Meeting
Minutes

Wednesday, April 22, 2026
1:30 pm Auditorium

Board Attendees: Richard Ward, Mark Garland, Alison Kowalewski, Jay Alexov, André Casaubon, Mark Patterson, Gail Riddell, Birgit Stefani, Jeff Weeks, Val Galat (recorder)
Vicki Raw (Executive Director)

1. Welcome 1:30 pm
2. Call to Order and Singing of O Canada
3. Introduction of Board of Directors
4. Moment of silence for those who have passed
5. Confirmation of Voting Member Quorum

MOTION to adopt Agenda. Moved by Paula Mayer. seconded by Chris Twaits. Passed unanimously.

6. **MOTION to accept Fall Membership Meeting minutes of October 29, 2025.** Moved by Leigh Gabriel. Seconded by Kit Artus. Passed unanimously.

7. Annual Reports:

- **President's Report** – Richard Ward: A thank you to the people who made it possible for him to be president including Roy Wren, Ron Atkinson and his wife Diane, Doug Smith, Bob Maveety, and all the board members who were thanked individually. Also acknowledged staff: Heather Doré, Gillian Smith, Emily McPherson, Liz Mathews and Jackie Coombs. The volunteers and all their great work. Bingo, office and greeter volunteers. Thanked Alison Kowalewski for doing everything - Kitchen, Treasurer, MySeniorCenter.com, and office organization. (Wee hug!). He advised that he would continue running the Seniors Lottery with Alison and Jurgen Kowalewski as coordinator and treasurer for the BC Seniors online 50/50. The Executive Director, Vicki Raw, had her successful 6-month Job Review on Sunday, April 19th with Richard Ward and Birgit Stefani. Both sides were very happy with the situation and how the Centre is being run.

- **Executive Director's Report** – Vicki Raw: Vicki echoed all of Richard's sentiments and thanks to the Board, staff and other Volunteers. She is pleased to be here and is happy with how things are going and truly appreciates the Board's ongoing support. She is extremely impressed by what this organization is doing and how happy people seem to be. The staff is incredible. She advised that heat pumps have been ordered for the Farrish and Craft Rooms, to be paid for from the sale of the bus.

- **Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements** – Alison Kowalewski: [AGM financials 2026](#)
The Kitchen really helps with revenue. The Gaming revenue is half as stated as there are expenses, including 50% to the winners each month. She highlighted that we increased sales by 23% and donations were up by \$116k. She thanked Richard Ward for his contributions.

- **MOTION to adopt the Treasurer's Financial Report.** Moved by Val Galat.

Seconded by Bob Maveety. Passed unanimously.

8. **Special Resolutions** – proposed amendments to the Bylaws. Vicki explained that the changes were mostly to clean up our bylaws and address items specific to the transition to a governance board from a working board. She noted that a member had pointed out, just that morning, an error in the wording of Amendment 13. To address the error, each resolution would need to be passed individually.

<https://www.secheltactivitycentre.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/2025-AGM-Special-Resolution-Final.pdf>

Vicki read each proposed Amendment, asked for a mover and seconder, called for and responded to discussion, called for all in favour, and called for any opposition.

1. ***Section 1 of the Bylaws of the Sechelt Seniors Activity Centre Society is amended by adding the following:***

"Executive Director" means the person appointed under section 54 to act as a senior manager for the Society pursuant to section 61 of the *Societies Act*;

Moved by Jeff Weeks. Seconded by Mark Garland. Passed unanimously.

2. ***Section 1 is amended by repealing the definition of "Member Meeting" and substituting the following:***

"Member Meeting" includes the

(a) Annual General Meeting, and

(b) a Special Member Meeting;

Moved by Paula Mayer. Seconded by Petra Haas. Passed unanimously.

3. Section 1 is amended by repealing the definition of "Regular Member Meeting".

Moved by Petra Haas. Seconded by Sybil Young. Passed unanimously.

4. Subsection 12(2) is amended by striking out "at the annual Christmas lunch" and substituting "in a manner and time as determined by the Board".

Moved by Leigh Gabriel. Seconded by Mark McDougall. Passed unanimously.

5. Paragraph 18(2)(b) is amended by striking out ";" and substituting ",".

Moved by Kit Arturs. Seconded by Chris Twaits. Passed unanimously.

6. Subsection 24(2) is amended by adding after "meeting" ", or in accordance with subsection 77(2) of the Societies Act".

Moved by Val Galat. Seconded by Birgit Stefani. Passed unanimously.

7. Part 4, Division 2 is repealed.

Moved by Petra Haas. Seconded by Paula Mayer. Passed unanimously.

8. Section 31 is repealed and the following substituted:

Annual General Meeting

31 An Annual General Meeting shall be held at such day, time and place every March, or other date, as determined by the Board.

Moved by Kit Artus. Seconded by Chris Twaits. Passed unanimously.

9. Section 36 is repealed and the following substituted:

Membership

36 There shall be a Board of Directors consisting of nine directors elected pursuant to section 59.

Moved by Jeff Weeks. Seconded by Birgit Stefani. Passed unanimously.

10. Section 39 is repealed and the following substituted:

Signing authority

- 39 (1) The Officers shall be signing officers for the Society.
- (2) The Board may authorize the Executive Director as a signing officer.

Moved by Chris Twaits. Seconded by Alison Kowalewski. Passed unanimously.

11. ***Paragraph 43(1)(a) is amended by striking out “once a month” and substituting “six (6) times a year”.***

Moved by Val Galat. Seconded by Birgit Stefani. Passed unanimously.

12. ***The heading to Division 3 of Part 5 is repealed and the following substituted:***

“Division 3 – Officers and Executive Director”.

Moved by Mark Garland. Seconded by Paula Mayer. Passed unanimously.

Before reading Amendment 13, Vicki clarified that this was the Amendment that had been put forward with incorrect wording – subsection 48.1 (1) should not have included the last section of wording “...and one other director appointed by the Board.” She presented the revised Amendment, as follows:

13. ***Part 5, Division 3 is amended by adding, before section 49:***

Officers

- 48.1 (1) The officers of the Society shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary.
- (2) The officers shall be elected by the Directors from among the Directors at the first meeting of the Directors next following the Annual General Meeting of the members at which the Directors are elected.
- (3) The officers shall serve for a term of two years, in accordance with the staggered terms of office of the officers previously elected by the Members.
- (4) Officers of the Society may be removed at any time as officers by a majority vote of the Directors.
- (5) An officer removed pursuant to subsection (4) continues to be a Director.

Richard Ward moved to accept the revised Amendment. Seconded by Mark Garland. Passed with only one member, Bob Foley, opposed.

14. ***The following section is added:***

Executive Director

- 54 (1) The Board may from time to time appoint an Executive Director with such powers and duties as are determined by the Board.

(2) Except as restricted by the Board or the Executive Committee, the Executive Director has the right to notice of and to attend all meetings of the Board and all committees of the Board, except meetings that are identified as in camera meetings.

Moved by Richard Ward. Seconded by Jay Alexov. Passed unanimously.

15. Section 55 is amended by striking out "senior manager" and substituting "Executive Director".

Moved by Richard Ward. Seconded by Alison Kowalewsk. Passed unanimously.

16. The following section is added:

Executive Committee

56.1 (1) There shall be an Executive Committee chaired by the President, and including the Vice- President, Treasurer, Secretary and one other Director appointed by the Board.

(2) The Executive Committee shall have the power to transact all regular business of the Society between meetings of the Board as authorized by the Board.

(3) The Executive Committee shall report to the Board as frequently as required by the Board on all the actions it has taken.

(4) The other director appointed under subsection (1) may be removed as a member of the Executive Committee at any time by a majority vote of the Directors.

Moved by Jeff Weeks. Seconded by Mark Garland. Passed unanimously.

At this point a member, Marj McDougall, posed a question from the floor. As the remaining Amendments appear uncontentious, she requested that they be grouped together. The question was put to the members, and all were in agreement. Vicki read the remaining Amendments in full.

17. Subsection 57(5) is repealed and the following substituted:

"(5) The President shall be an ex-officio member of any committee as determined by the Board.

(6) The Board may delegate its authority under subsections (1) and (2) to the Executive Director for such committees as determined by the Board."

18. Section 58 is amended by adding the following:

"(3) The Board may delegate its authority under subsection (1) to the Executive Director for such committees as determined by the Board, in which case the chair of the committee shall report to the Executive Director."

19. Section 59 is amended by striking out "Officer and", and by striking out "67" and substituting "66".

20. Subsection 66 is repealed and the following substituted:

"Term of office

66 The elected Board members shall serve, subject to section 67, for a term of two years, commencing when they have taken their oath of office after their election at an Annual General Meeting and ending after their successors have taken their oath of office after their election at the second Annual General Meeting afterward."

21. Subsection 68(4) is repealed and the following substituted:

"(4) A Director appointed pursuant to subsection (3) will serve until the end of the term of the person they are replacing, subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the members present and voting at the next Annual General Meeting if the original term of office is not set to expire at that time."

22. Subsection 79(5) is amended by striking out "Board" and substituting "Executive Committee".

23. Section 86 is amended by
(a) striking out ";" at the end of paragraph (e) and substituting ".,
(b) repealing paragraph (f)'
(c) renumbering section 86 as subsection 86(1); and
(d) adding the following:

"(2) The Minutes of the Member Meetings shall include the signatures of the person taking the Minutes and the person chairing the meeting."

24. (1) The Bylaws be amended by striking out "President" wherever it appears and substituting "Chair", and by striking out "Vice-President" wherever it appears and substituting "Vice- Chair".
(2) If this section is approved, it shall apply to all other provisions in this Special Resolution.

Transitional provisions

25. The following section is added:

2026 Bylaw Amendments

97 (1) The Officers elected at the 2026 Annual General Meeting shall hold their office for their prescribed terms.

(2) The election of Officers pursuant to section 48.1 shall commence with the first Board meeting after the 2027 Annual General Meeting.

26. The 2026 Annual General Meeting shall be deemed to have been held lawfully though it was not held in March 2026.

Val Galat moved to accept Amendments 17 through 26. Seconded by Mark Garland.

Passed unanimously.

9. Partial Dissolution of current Board and acknowledgment of outgoing Board members.
Vicki made a presentation to Alison and Richard to thank them for their excellent service, commitment, and work on behalf of the Centre.

10. Candidate Statements (2 minutes each) - **not required**.

11. Election of Board members pursuant to section 59 of the Bylaws.

12. 2026 Board:	OFFICERS	DIRECTORS
	Chair	Jay Alexov
	Vice Chair	André Casaubon
	Treasurer	Mark Patterson
	Secretary	Gail Riddell
		Jane Whittleton

13. Voting will commence, followed by a refreshment break while ballots are counted, and results are conferred - **Not required**.

14. Ratification of new Board members

- o **MOTION to ratify the new Board members.** Moved by Richard Ward. Seconded by Chris Twaits. Passed unanimously.
- o Swearing in of new Board members by Vicki. Completed.


15. Old Business – **none**.

16. Q & A - Kit Arturs asked a question about our policy regarding privacy of members, specifically with regards to publishing images or creating AI generated images of members. Richard spoke to the particular image that sparked the question, confirming that the photo had, in fact, been cropped from a past group Board photo and not AI generated. Vicki also responded stating that SSAC has a lot of images in our archives and that sometimes historical images are used – such as the one in question - to tell our story. Additionally, she advised that individuals can self-identify at any time should they not wish for their photos to be published.

17. Adjournment/Volunteer Acknowledgment 3:12 pm.



Val Galat, *Secretary*



Richard Ward, *2025 President*